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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VA Black Hills Health Care System Awards Contract for Scottsbluff Clinic

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Black Hills Health Care System has awarded a contract to STG International, Inc. to provide outpatient care to Veterans at their Scottsbluff, NE Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC).

VA Black Hills Health Care System and STG International, Inc. have implemented an action plan and both entities want to assure Veterans that their health care needs will continue to be met during the transition. It is anticipated that STG International, Inc. will take over operation of the clinic effective March 1, 2010, however the clinic will be closed from February 15 through February 26 while equipment and upgrades to the facility are performed. The clinic will continue to operate at the same location of 1720 E. Portal Place.

All Veterans enrolled in the Scottsbluff CBOC will receive a letter advising them on services available during the time the clinic is closed, introducing new staff and if there will be a change in clinic phone number.

The goal is to make this transition as seamless as possible for our Veterans. The transition to a contract operated clinic will improve access and ensure more timely care to Scottsbluff area Veterans as STG International, Inc. will increase outpatient primary care from three days a week to five days a week. STG International, Inc. provides skilled, credentialed medical personnel in hospitals, medical clinics and military treatment facilities across the country. Their current clients include the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and other Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.

“The VA Black Hills Health Care System is operating very successful contract managed clinics in Pierre, Winner, Eagle Butte, Faith and Isabel, South Dakota,” said Peter Henry, Director. “It is our intention to provide the same high quality of care and access for our Veterans in Scottsbluff through the contract model.”

VA Black Hills Health Care System previously announced plans to restructure four CBOC’s serving Veterans in Scottsbluff, Alliance and Gordon, NE and Newcastle, WY from VA staffed to contract operated clinics. The Scottsbluff CBOC is the first clinic to be awarded a contract.

Veterans or family members with questions about the restructuring of the Scottsbluff clinic may contact Stacie Collins, CBOC Coordinator/Administrative Officer at 605-745-2821 or Byron Mutschelknaus, CBOC Coordinator/Administrative Officer at 605-718-1095, Ext. 3049.

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